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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/839,952	04/19/2001	Naoko Iwami	36992.00072	4508
30256	7590	12/02/2005	EXAMINER	
SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY L.L.P.			NAWAZ, ASAD M	
600 HANSEN WAY			ART UNIT	
PALO ALTO, CA 94304-1043			PAPER NUMBER	

2155

DATE MAILED: 12/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/839,952

Applicant(s)

IWAMI, NAKO

Examiner

Asad M. Nawaz

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 September 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-6,8-13,16-21,24-29 and 32-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-6,8-13,16-21,24-29 and 32-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the Request for Continued Examination filed on 9/08/05. Claims 1-2, 4-6, 8-13, 16-21, 24-29, and 32-34 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-2, 4-6, 8-13, 16-21, 24-29, and 32-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being taught by Yoshida et al (USPN: 6622220) hereinafter referred to as Yoshida.

As to claim 1, Yoshida teaches a storage apparatus comprising a gateway having a processor, a memory, a vpn program, a view table, and at least one port operative to connect to a vpn, said view table including authorized user address, virtual destination addresses corresponding to said user addresses, destination addresses corresponding to said virtual destination addresses, virtual volume ids corresponding to said user addresses, and volume ids corresponding to said virtual volume ids (Fig 1, col 6, lines 27-45), a plurality of devices that store information, each of said devices further comprising at least one volume, server, switch, and an internal network connection said

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gateway, server, switch, and one of said plurality of devices that store information (fig 1; col 5, line 39 to col 6, line 7) wherein said gateway receives a data packet for storing, retrieves a virtual destination address and a user address from said data packet, confirms that the user address retrieved corresponds to an authorized user address in the view table, uses the view table to confirm that the virtual destination address corresponds to the user address, reads from the view table a corresponding destination address for a particular one of said plurality of devices that store information, and thereupon replaces in said data packet said virtual destination address with said corresponding destination address from said view table (col 5, line 39 to col 6 line 35; Fig 1, numerals 110, 115, 120, 130, 135, and 140), wherein said gateway searches in said data packet for vpn volume id and if found, thereupon confirms that the vpn volume id corresponds to the user address, reads from said view table a volume id corresponding to said vpn volume id and replaces vpn volume id in said data packet with said volume id (figs 2A and 2B; col 4, line 52 to col 5, line 36).

As to claim 2, Yoshida teaches the apparatus of claim 1, wherein said gateway authenticates a source of said data packet based upon a user address in said data packet (col 3, lines 56 to col 4, line 23).

As to claim 4, Yoshida teaches the apparatus of claim 1, wherein said virtual private network uses a first protocol and said internal network uses a second protocol, and wherein said gateway translates said data packet from said first protocol to said second protocol (copl 1, lines 23-40).

As to claim 5, Yoshida teaches the apparatus of claim 4, wherein said first protocol comprises at least one of IP protocol, ATM, and Fibre channel (col 2, lines 60-66).

As to claim 6, Yoshida teaches the apparatus of claim 4, wherein said second protocol comprises at least one of IP protocol, ATM, and Fibre channel (col 2, lines 60-66).

As to claim 8, Yoshida teaches the apparatus of claim 1, wherein said gateway receives a data packet being sent to said virtual private network, and thereupon searches in said view table for a destination address retrieved from said data packet, and thereupon reads from said view table a corresponding virtual destination address, and thereupon replaces in said data packet said destination address with said corresponding virtual destination address from said view table (col 6, lines 45-63).

As to claim 9, Yoshida teaches the apparatus of claim 1 wherein said virtual destination address and said destination address are stored in a table (col 6, lines 45-63)

Claims 10-13, 16-21, 24-29, and 32-34 contain similar limitations as the above-mentioned apparatus claims and are thus rejected under similar rationale.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Asad M. Nawaz whose telephone number is (571) 272-3988. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-4:30.

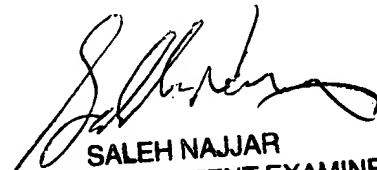
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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on (571) 272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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SALEH NAJJAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER